TD

Distr.
LIMITED

TD/II/WG.II/L.6
4 March 1968

Original: ENGLISH

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Second session
WORKING GROUP II

Dual Distr.

DRAFT REPORT OF WORKING GROUP II
on its deliberations concerning item 14

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INTRODUCTION

1. At its 62nd plenary meeting on 16 February 1968, the Conference established Working Group II with the following membership:
Afghanistan[1], Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Ceylon, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Japan, Liberia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea[2], Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela. It was agreed that the representative of any country member of UNCTAD interested in the Working Group's deliberations would be free to participate in its proceedings.

2. The Conference referred to the Working Group items 14 and 15 of the agenda for consideration and report, [in conformity with the recommendation made by the Trade and Development Board at its fifth session (A/6714, part one, paragraph 22 (iii))]. Item 14 of the agenda, as adopted by the Conference, reads as follows: "Trade expansion and economic integration among developing countries, measures to be taken by developing and developed countries, including regional, sub-regional and inter-regional arrangements".

3. At its first meeting on 23 February, the Working Group elected as its Chairman Mr. H.M.A. Onitiri (Nigeria), Mr. R. Navaratnam (Malaysia) as Vice-Chairman, and Mr. M.D. Lalcux (Belgium) as Rapporteur.

4. In considering item 14, the Working Group held .... meetings from 23 February to 7 March 1968.

5. At the Working Group's first meeting, the Chairman drew attention to the decision by the Conference at its 58th meeting to allocate items 14 and 15 to the Working Group (TD/SR.58). After some discussion concerning the order in which the Working Group might consider the two items and the various topics falling within the scope of these items, the Chairman proposed and the Working Group agreed to take up item 14 first and for this purpose approved the following order of business:

1/ Participating in deliberations on item 15
2/ Participating in deliberations on item 14

1. Review of progress made and problems encountered in regard to trade expansion and integration among the developing countries, including intended future action.
2. International support action,
   (a) Commercial support
   (b) Financial support, including payments arrangements
   (c) Technical assistance.
3. Institutional arrangements.

6. In the debate on item 14, the representatives of Guinea, Israel, Southern Yemen and ..... participated and spoke.

7. The representatives of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and of the International Monetary Fund attended the meetings. The Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade were also represented. The following inter-governmental bodies were represented: the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, the Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Integration (SIECA), the African and Malagasy Common Organization, the International Union for the Protection of Industrial Property, the Permanent Consultative Committee of the Maghreb, the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank. In addition, the representatives of the Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa, of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East and of the Economic Commission for Latin America participated in the Working Group's deliberations. The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, a non-governmental organization also took part in the Working Group's debates.

8. A number of inter-governmental regional organizations, invited by the President to attend the Conference, were unable to be represented.

/The various chapters of the draft report will be circulated as addenda to this document./